Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether any single society has been started anywhere in regard to production or distribution through the efforts of this Institute?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There are small co-operative societies of sales but they cannot be called co-operative whole-sale societies because they do not control the whole-sale. They are very small societies, and like all small societies with small capital it is very difficult to balance their budgets and there is considerable irregularity in the matter of subscription which is not a wholly localised evil.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put:—*that the demand may be passed.*

Motion carried.

7. VII—Stamps—Rs. 240.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 240 under VII-Stamps.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 240 under VII-Stamps. On account of pressure of work in the Bills section of the Stamp and Stationery Department, one of the reasons for which was the large accounts that had to be settled in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit, an additional clerk had to be appointed towards the close of last year. That officer has been paid his salaries, according to the Account Code, section 144, which states that all salaries should be paid irrespective of particular budget provision. But the accumulated salaries for six months and odd at Rs. 30 each comes to about Rs. 240 and this sum is now proposed to be moved. I might also submit for the information of the House that this demand did not come up earlier in the Legislative Session because it was thought that this being a small amount it might be possible to meet it by transfer from some other head. Now it is found that it is not possible to do so and therefore the demand for Rs. 240 is made to meet the salary of this additional clerk who was appointed sometimes towards the very close of last year to tackle with the additional work in the Stamps and Stationery Department. I submit that this may be passed by this House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know the section of the Account Code?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—See Cochin Account Code, Vol. I, section 144.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I want to know it, because I have been answered that, although the pay was met without provision in the budget, yet there is a provision in the Code.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There is a total budget grant. It should not be understood that the amount was drawn

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without any budget provision. There was a provision under establishment charges. This particular item might not have been included to make up the total establishment charges. That is all. So when there is a deficiency under establishment charges, motion for additional allotments must be made to this House. There was a budget allotment under establishment charges and it was from that allotment that this clerk was paid according to section 144.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 240 for VII—Stamps by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I understand from the Hon'ble Member is that there is provision in the budget for the Huzur Secretariat, under which there is a large amount of money available for meeting the salaries of the employees in the Huzur. From that, although there is no particular provision for this particular clerk, money has been drawn and paid. Of course that provision will not be sufficient to meet this expenditure. Therefore, this additional allotment is asked for in this House. Of course I understand it correctly; but my point is that when the Legislative Council is functioning you have asked only for provision for this clerk for the year 1105 Karkadagam, that is only for one month, because you probably thought that this expenditure would not be needed in the year 1106. Because in the note that was circulated, provision of Rs. 30 was only made for Karkadagam 1105. Therefore, there was absolutely no provision for continuing this clerk in 1106. I submit that such things will happen. I do not say that it is avoidable. I would like to see that these things are avoided as far as possible. That is the reason why I asked to state reasons. That has been answered by saying that we thought that we would be able to meet it by transfer from one head to another, and it was found that it was not possible and that therefore we come to this House for a supplementary grant. Therefore, I would like to say that we would insist upon the policy of making provisions first, before paying or employing people and this sanction must always be properly made out. Otherwise the functioning of this House will dwindle. What was the necessity for this clerk? That is the next point. The necessity for this clerk is supposed to be due to additional work in the Stamp Office with reference to the Viceroy's visit, if we understand it correctly, or along with something else. In any case the Viceroy's visit certainly costs a large amount of expenditure and provision should have been made along with that expenditure for a clerk also in the controlling office, for arranging the vouchers, and for seeing that

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everything is regular, according to rules; and why such a provision was not made, the Government have not attempted to give any explanation or answer.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is not usual to make such piecemeal provision in every department when there is a new item of work to be gone through.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I quite appreciate that, Sir. But I still maintain and say that when such large expenses over a lakh of rupees are being incurred, a clerk on Rs. 20 or 30, which will only be a very small drop in the very big expenditure, could have been very easily provided and this difficulty avoided. And we do not know yet what is the quantity of the work with reference to that visit. All that is still not public property. Therefore, I have asked the Government if possible, to give the total expenditure connected with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit, and also to state whether the whole amount of it has been covered by proper sanction and whether, if any are still to be covered, they may also be stated. On that I have not heard anything from the Hon'ble Secretary.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The total expenditure has been about a lakh and 30 thousand rupees and it has been covered by proper sanctions. Of course final accounts have not yet been passed. The usual procedure is that first we fix a provisional amount towards such political expenditure and then after the final accounts are ready get them scrutinised and audited by the Comptroller. The latter submits them to the Huzur, and in the D. P. these will be read and the amount passed for so many rupees, annas and pies covering the whole expenditure. But this stage has not been reached. The total expenditure, will however more or less come to a lakh and 30 thousand.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether this one lakh and 30 thousand covers the whole expenditure or whether any expenditure has been particularly met from any departmental items also?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This comes under Political—Miscellaneous. So it is not inclusive of any amount spent by the D. P. W.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Has there been any expenditure incurred from any other departmental head in connection with His Excellency's visit?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It cannot be said that some amount has not been spent for the Viceroy's visit by the D. P. W. I hope that is what the Hon'ble Member refers to. There have been many useful works executed, for example, the 'Irwin Park'. These would not come under this one lakh and

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30 thousand. For the visit of His Excellency was only the occasion to do all these works. All that is not included in this.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will all expenditure on the Bolghatty Bungalow come under this one lakh and 30 thousand?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Expenditure under Bolghatty is under a different category altogether. It is covered by certain specific terms agreed between the two Governments. That expenditure if necessary will have to be apportioned according to those terms.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to the continuation of the appointment of the clerk, may I know in this connection, whether the duty allowance granted to a clerk in the Stamp and Stationery Su erintendent's Office is still continued?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think it still continues.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Even after the appointment of an additional clerk?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think, it does.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Was there any absolute necessity of an additional clerk after the granting of the duty allowance of Rs. 10 or the continuance of the allowance after the appointment of the new clerk?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think the appointment of the clerk was subsequent to the grant of the duty allowance. I think for the last three or four years, if I remember right, this duty allowance has been in force.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Was there any necessity for continuing the allowance after the appointment of a new hand? In this connection may I read a paragraph of the Diwan's Proceedings? "In addition to his normal duties, the Superintendent of Stamps is the drawing officer for Huzur and various other heads, as pointed out above and one clerk is allotted to assist him in this work. The work of this clerk wholly relates to account and involves large money drawings and payments. The constitution of the Legislative Council has increased this work. Often the clerk posted for this duty has to work overtime to keep himself current and correct. A duty allowance of Rs. 10 has therefore been temporarily sanctioned to him. The Committee has not proposed to enlarge the establishment. The allowance will, therefore be continued." That is said in the Diwan's Proceedings dated 25th March 1930. So it was against the proposals of the Special Finance Committee that the new appointment was made.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The appointment was made due to the work that one clerk could not get through.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Then why the continuance of the allowance to the clerk?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I can only say that the clerk has been getting this allowance for the extra work that he has been doing and this point so to say has not exactly come up. Anyhow the point since it has been raised, will be noted to see whether the duty allowance can be stopped.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I am not for stopping the duty allowance. My point is this. It is said that the work of this clerk wholly relates to accounts and involves large money drawings and payments and the new clerk appointed, we are made to understand, was ordered to look after the accounts and accounts only, in connection with the Viceroy's visit.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He is also helping the other. The two are in the same section, in the Bills section of the Stamp Office. Formerly there was only one. It was found impossible for one hand to make it current and there have been a number of defalcations in the Stamp Office. And it was on account of that that the second clerk was appointed. Of course I admit that it is a relevant point, that when a second clerk has been appointed the continuance of the duty allowance should be looked into. And since it has been raised I will look into it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put : *that the demand may be passed.*

Motion carried.

The House rose for lunch at 2 to 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p. m. with the President in the chair.

8. IX.—Forests—Rs. 1,300.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,300 under IX—Forests. No provision was made in the Budget for 1106 for the payment of T. A. to the candidates selected for the Foresters' training. The training lasted for 8 months. The total of the bills submitted by the candidates comes to about Rs. 500. A sum of Rs. 800 approximately is also required for disbursing the arrear pay of the candidates. An additional allotment of Rs. 1,300 has to be sanctioned to meet these two items of expenditure. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the additional allotment asked for.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a point of information. How many candidates were trained ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Six.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reauce the allotment of Rs. 1,300 for IX—Forests by Re. 1.*

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